**Girl Who Named NASA's Mars Rover Excited to Watch It Blast Off**

Curiosity was a name that a sixth grader had submitted for the NASA rover. Clara Ma was only in the sixth grade when she had submitted the name to NASA. Now, a ninth grader, Clara was able to watch the liftoff of Curiosity on November 26, 2011. Ma was able to travel all the way to Pasadena, California to the NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Ma was able to watch Curiosity be built and even get the chance to sign her name onto the rover itself. Not only that, but Ma also got the chance to travel to the NASA headquarters all the way in Washington. By just submitting a name for a rover, many opportunities opened up for Clara Ma. She soon became interested in astrophysics and space.

Curiosity is actually a great name for the mars rover, because everyone is really curious to what is on Mars and what it may contain. I think it’s amazing how Clara was able to submit just one word and so many opportunities had opened up for her. She got the chance to travel across the states, such as Florida, California, and Washington. Because of this, she was able to learn about space and was interested. Clara also got the chance to sign her name on the rover which was really cool.